

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-49 (Canceled).

Claim 50 (New): An image forming apparatus comprising:

a receiving unit configured to receive, via a network, image data and recording medium size therefor;

a reducing unit configured to reduce the image data based on a size of a substitute recording medium, when a recording medium having the recording medium size is unavailable and the image data is to be formed on the substitute recording medium that is smaller than the recording medium size received by the receiving unit; and

a forming unit configured to form on the substitute recording medium the image data that is reduced by the reducing unit.

Claim 51 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 50, wherein the forming unit forms the image data received by the receiving unit, without reduction by the reducing unit, on the substitute recording medium that is formed by one of a plurality of recording media having a smallest size amongst the plurality of recording media, when a recording medium having the recording medium size received by the receiving unit is unavailable and one of the plurality of recording media having sizes larger than the recording medium size received by the receiving unit is to be used as the substitute recording medium.

Claim 52 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 50, wherein one of the plurality of recording media having a size B4 is used as the substitute recording medium when the recording medium size received by the receiving unit is a size

A4, a recording medium having the size A4 is unavailable, and one of the plurality of recording media having a size larger than the size A4 is to be used as the substitute recording medium,

one of the plurality of recording media having a size A3 is used as the substitute recording medium when a recording medium having the size B4 is unavailable, and

the forming unit forms the image data received by the receiving unit, without reduction by the reducing unit, on the substitute recording medium having the B4 size or the A3 size.

Claim 53 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 50, further comprising:

a storage unit configured to store a priority order of substitute recording medium sizes to be used when a recording medium having the recording medium size received by the receiving unit is unavailable.

Claim 54 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 50, further comprising:

a selecting unit configured to select one of forming the image data reduced by the reducing unit on the substitute recording medium based on the size of the substitute recording medium and forming the image data, received by the receiving unit on the substitute recording medium without reduction by the reduction unit.

Claim 55 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 50, further comprising:

a selecting unit configured to select one of forming the image data reduced by the reducing unit on the substitute recording medium based on the size of the substitute recording medium and forming the image data received by the receiving unit in parts on a plurality of substitute recording media without reduction by the reduction unit.

Claim 56 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 51, wherein the forming unit forms the image data received by the receiving unit at a predetermined position on the substitute recording medium.

Claim 57 (New): The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 56, wherein the predetermined position is a center position on the substitute recording medium.

Claim 58 (New): An image forming method to form image data on a recording medium in an image forming apparatus, comprising:

receiving image data and recording medium size therefor via a network by a receiving unit;

reducing the image data based on a size of a substitute recording medium by a reducing unit, when a recording medium having the recording medium size is unavailable and the image data is to be formed on the substitute recording medium that is smaller than the recording medium size received by the receiving; and

forming the image data that is reduced by the reducing on the substitute recording medium by a forming unit.

Claim 59 (New): The image forming method as claimed in claim 58, wherein the forming forms the image data received by the receiving, without reduction by the reducing, on the substitute recording medium that is formed by one of a plurality of recording media having a smallest size amongst the plurality of recording media, when a recording medium having the recording medium size received by the receiving unit is unavailable and one of the plurality of recording media having sizes larger than the recording medium size received by the receiving is to be used as the substitute recording medium.

Claim 60 (New): The image forming method as claimed in claim 58, wherein one of the plurality of recording media having a size B4 is used as the substitute recording medium when the recording medium size received by the receiving is a size A4, a recording medium having the size A4 is unavailable, and one of the plurality of recording media having a size larger than the size A4 is to be used as the substitute recording medium, one of the plurality of recording media having a size A3 is used as the substitute recording medium when a recording medium having the size B4 is unavailable, and the forming forms the image data received by the receiving, without reduction by the reducing, on the substitute recording medium having the B4 size or the A3 size.

Claim 61 (New): The image forming method as claimed in claim 58, further comprising:
storing a priority order of substitute recording medium sizes to be used in a storage unit when a recording medium having the recording medium size received by the receiving is unavailable.

Claim 62 (New): The image forming method as claimed in claim 58, further comprising:

selecting, by a selecting unit, one of forming the image data reduced by the reducing on the substitute recording medium based on the size of the substitute recording medium and forming the image data received by the receiving on the substitute recording medium without reduction by the reducing.

Claim 63 (New): The image forming method as claimed in claim 58, further comprising:

selecting, by a selecting unit, one of forming the image data reduced by the reducing on the substitute recording medium based on the size of the substitute recording medium and forming the image data received by the receiving in parts on a plurality of substitute recording media without reduction by the reducing.

Claim 64 (New): The image forming method as claimed in claim 59, wherein the forming forms the image data received by the receiving at a predetermined position on the substitute recording medium.

Claim 65 (New): The image forming method as claimed in claim 64, wherein the predetermined position is a center position on the substitute recording medium.